



Mountain Biking in Public Lands

Whether you want a nice easy ride on an old roadbed or a grueling trail up technical switchbacks leading to a spectacular view, Alaska is the place to ride. From hour long rides, to multiple day rides you can find whatever your legs desire. In Anchorage, you can explore the trails at the World Class cross country ski area, Kincaid Park. The trails range from fire roads to singletrack and you can spend the better part of a day exploring. You can add a few more miles by riding the paved Tony Knowles Coastal Trail out to Kincaid. Also in Anchorage, the Far North Bicentennial Park and Campbell Tract area offers plenty of cross country ski trails and singletrack that will lead you right up to the gasline trail and Prospect Heights trailhead for more trail opportunities in Chugach State Park. As always, remember to stay on the trail, respect trail closures, and give the right of way to the horses and hikers that you encounter. So grab your water bottle, pop on your helmet and get your legs spinning and enjoy an Alaskan mountain bike adventure.

State Parks Chugach State Park Headquarters

Potter Section House, Seward Hwy
HC 52 Box 8999
Indian, AK 99540
(907) 345-5014

Generally state parks do not allow mountain biking on their hiking trails. However, Chugach State Park,

Independence Mine State Historical Park and Chena State Recreation Area are exceptions. Mountain biking is permitted in the following areas:

Chugach State Park Bike Trails

- Bird Creek Logging Roads- Trailhead 1 mile off Seward Highway, MP 100.
- Eklutna Lakeside Trail- 13.5 miles, trailhead at Eklutna Lake Campground.
- Gasline Service Road- 13.5 miles, from Prospect Heights Trailhead to Indian.
- Glen Alps- 0.3 miles, parking lot to the Powerline Trail.
- Middle Fork Loop Trail- 0.75 miles, from intersection of Near Point Trail to South end of Homestead roadbed.
- Near Point Trail- 3 miles, Prospect Heights Trailhead to the overlook at north end of homestead roadbed.
- Peters Creek Trail- 5 miles, beginning at Malcolm Drive.
- Powerline Trail- 13 miles, Prospect Heights Trailhead to Indian.

State Parks Mat-Su Area Office

HC 32 Box 6706
Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 745-3975

Hatcher Pass Bike Trails

- Archangel Road- 5 miles, trailhead at MP 15 Hatcher Pass Road.
- Craggie Creek- 4 miles, trailhead MP 23.8 Hatcher Pass Road or 4 miles west of Summit Lake.
- Gold Mint Trail- 9 miles to glacier (lots of brush after 4 miles),

trailhead MP 13.8 Hatcher Pass Road, parking lot adjacent to Motherlode Roadhouse.

State Parks Northern Area Office

3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709
(907) 451-2695

Chena River State Recreation Area Trails

Bicycling is permitted on the ATV trails, which are marked at the trailheads. The best ones for summer use are:

- Stiles Creek Trail- 15 miles, Trailheads at MP 31.4 and MP 36.4 Chena Hot Springs Road.
- Chena Dome Trail- 24 miles, Trailheads at MP 49.1 and MP 50.5 Chena Hot Springs Road. (Boulder fields in this trail)

State Land

Fairbanks Area State Forestry Office
3700 Airport Way
Fairbanks, AK 99709
(907) 451-2600

State Public Information Center
550 W. 7th Ave., Ste 1280
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 269-8400

Bicycling is one of the "generally allowed uses on state land." However, this doesn't include land owned or managed by other state agencies such as the University of AK, Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities,

or the AK Railroad. Before beginning an activity on state land, the user should check to be sure it is allowed in that particular area. A couple of popular areas are listed below:

- Tanana Valley State Forest Road System- Over 150 miles of forest roads. Logging trucks, ORV's and horses are also allowed on roads. BE ALERT!
- Fairbanks to Circle Historic Trail- 58 miles, trailhead at MP 3.3 Fairbanks Creek road or at MP 86 Steese Highway.
- Stampede Trail to East Toklat River- Trailhead is at Mile 251 Parks Highway. Trail goes approximately 20 miles to Denali National Park boundry (Bikes are prohibited off-road in the National Park).

National Parks and National Wildlife Refuge
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park
P.O. Box 439
Copper Center, AK 99573
(907) 822-5234

National Parks do not allow bicycles on their trails. Bicycles are limited to using the roads which are open to motor vehicle traffic. The same is true for National Wildlife Refuges. The only exception is Wrangell-St. Elias National Park which has some trails and dry creek beds suitable for mountain biking.

Wrangell-St. Elias Bike Trails
Off the McCarthy Road:
- Kotsina Road and Nugget Creek Trail- MP 13.5
- Kennicott to McCarthy Road

Off the Nabesna Road, dry creek beds suitable for mountain biking include:
- Lost Creek- MP 31.2
- Trail Creek- MP 29.4

National Forest and Bureau of Land Management Land
U.S. Forest Service
Chugach National Forest
3301 C St., Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99503
Phone: (907) 743-9500
The National Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management do not restrict mountain biking on their trails. However, some of their trails

are not recommended for bicycling. Some of the recommended trails in Southcentral Alaska for Chugach National Forest and Bureau of Land Management land are listed below. Please contact their district offices or the Alaska Public Lands Information Center for further information.

Chugach National Forest Bike Trails

- Crescent Creek Trail- MP 45 Sterling Highway, turn south onto Quartz Creek Road and go 3.5 miles to trailhead.
- Devil's Pass Trail- MP 39 Seward Highway, long gradual elevation gain.
- Gull Rock- MP 56.4 Seward highway, turn west onto the Hope Highway and go 17.5 miles to Porcupine Campground, trailhead is on far side of campground.
- Johnson Pass- Two trailheads, one at MP 63 Seward Highway, and one at MP 33 Seward Highway.
- Mills Creek Road- Trailhead is a little north of Lower Summit Lake just off a dirt road which parallels the Seward Highway about MP 52.
- Palmer Creek Road- From the Seward Highway, turn onto the Hope Highway, MP 56.4 and travel 15 miles to Resurrection Creek Road. Travel 0.5 miles to Palmer Creek Road.
- Resurrection Pass- North trailhead is 4 miles down Resurrection Creek Road from MP 15 Hope Highway. South trailhead is at MP 53 Sterling Highway.
- Russian Lakes Trail- One trailhead is at Russian River Campground, MP 52 Sterling Highway. The other trailhead is 9 miles down Snug Harbor Road, then 3 miles down Cooper Lake Road.
- Stetson Creek Trail- Trailhead is at south end of Cooper Creek Campground at MP 50 Sterling Highway.

Bureau of Land Management Bike Trails
Fairbanks Support Center
1150 University Avenue
Fairbanks, AK 99709-3844
Phone: (907) 474-2251

- Denali Hwy- Connects Paxson and Cantwell, 135 miles of gravel road.
- Maclaren River Road- MP 43.5 Denali Highway, 12-13 miles, one-way, ending at the Maclaren Glacier.
- Maclaren Summit Trail- MP 37 Denali Highway, 3 miles north, one-way, mostly uphill. - DIFFICULT
- Oscar Lake Trail- Also MP 37 Denali Highway, 5 miles south, one-way.
- Landmark Gap Trail South- MP 24.8 Denali Highway, first 1/2 mile may be flooded out by beaver pond. Keep right at the fork, 5 miles, one-way. - DIFFICULT
- Klutina Lake Trail- MP Richardson Highway, along Copper Center bypass. Turn west at Brenwick - Craig Road sign and cross under the oil pipeline. From the pipeline, it's about 25 miles to Klutina Lake on bare dirt gravel.
- Bernard Creek Trail- MP 78.9 Richardson Highway. This is a 15-mile old loop road, hardpack dirt, uphill with some Creek crossings. Trail ends at small lake near Kimball Pass.
- Tiger Mine Trail- MP 39.8 Edgerton Highway, 8 miles uphill.

These bicycling references are available by mail order from:
Alaska Natural History Association
750 W. 2d Ave., Ste. 100
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 274-8440 www.alaskanha.org

